

## [Hickey Jackson]

[??] [DUP?]

### FORM A Circumstances of Interview

NAME OF WORKER Edna B. Pearson ADDRESS 108 E. 18th So. Sioux

DATE Oct. 25, 1938 SUBJECT Interview No. [13?]

1. Name and address of informant Hickey, Jackson
2. Date and time of interview Oct. 25, 1938 at 2 P.M.
3. Place of interview, at his Bar and Cafe at Jackson
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant. Mr. Cornelius Hofferma, of Jackson, whom I went to see for an interview, but he just wouldn't talk; said Mr. Hickey could tell me what I wanted to hear about.
5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you None
6. Description of room, surroundings, etc. Mr. Hickey has a very nice looking restaurant in the village of Jackson; it is a large, long room, immaculately clean, counter on one side and booths on the other. It is on the main street of Jackson on Highway No. 20.

### FORM B Personal History of Informant

NAME OF WORKER Edna B. Pearson ADDRESS 108 E. 18th So. [Sioux?]

DATE Oct. 25, [1938?] SUBJECT Interview No. 13

## Library of Congress

NAME AND ADDRESS OF [INFORMANT?] William Hickey, Jackson, Nebraska

1. Ancestry Father, William Hickey, born in Tipperary, [?] Ireland. Mother , Bridget Leahy Hickey, born in [Glasgow?], Scotland, [?] to this country when 13, and lived in Brooklyn, N. Y.
2. Place and date of birth Born May 1st, 1877 in Pittstown, Pa. on the banks of the [Susquehanna?]
3. Family consists of boy and girl.
4. Place lived in, with dates; lived all his life in Jackson
5. Occupations and accomplishments, with dates Always ran a restaurant
6. Education, with dates Eighth grade, gave no date
7. Special skills and interests Nothing extra
8. Community and religious activities Member Catholic Church
9. Description of informant Mr. Hickey is a very young looking man for his age; short, rather plump and jolly, very pleasant and willing and glad to help all he can.
10. Other points gained in interview

FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

NAME OF WORKER Edna B. Pearson ADDRESS 100 E. 18th So. [Sioux?]

DATE Oct. 25, 1938 SUBJECT Interview No. 13

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT William Hickey, Jackson, Nebraska

## Library of Congress

At one time the population of Jackson was [?]; the five blocks of the main street were built up on both sides of the street; at that time we had four general stores, dry goods, groceries, hardware; at that time used to do a lot of hog buying; used to have seven or eight hog and cattle buyers here as Sioux City was a small town at that time, you know. There were four saloons, four blacksmith shops, three hotels, a regular shoe store. Mr. Flynn, the husband of the woman who is now postmistress here, ran the shoe store; he made shoes and boots; there were two banks.

The reason the town was so good at that time was, we had trade from O'Neill down as far as York; there were no railroads at that time and they used to come here and do their trading and they would come for wood, would get here in the day, put up at the hotels that night, go out and cut a load of wood and that would take another day, then the next morning they would start for home with their fuel.

The winter of 1880-81 I was only three years old, but I was in the blizzard of 1888; school let out in the middle of the afternoon and I got home all right. Those were real times.

I came from Pittston, Pennsylvania, October 1st, 1878. We came on the train a year after the narrow gauge, that was the Northwestern, was torn up. Dad came in 1877; he worked on the construction of the narrow gauge in 1877 and we came in on that railroad in 1878, and I saw it go out a few years ago. I lived here the life of the railroad that we came in on. It was from Wynot to Coburn Junction. At one time it was the best paying piece of railroad the Northwestern had.

[McLain and Dorsey?] were the promoters of the Burlington from Sioux City to O'Neill; they were in with Dick Talbot at that time and McLain financed the Burlington; Dorsey had a bank at Ponca; it was only a short time until the Burlington bought it as it went into the hands of a [receiver?].

## Library of Congress

During 1880-81 from Dakota City to Coburn Junction was all under water and a swamp. In 1916-17 Mayor Tom Sullivan, Fred Bartels, Dr. Charles [?] Maxwell and Judge [?] E. Evans built the drainage ditch to the south of Jackson and thereby changed the course of Elk Creek which emptied into Jackson Lake, just to the east and a little north of the town of Jackson, which made good farm land of that swamp. This was known as Drainage District No. 5.

I have crossed the Missouri on the ferry boat from Covington to Sioux City. Went across once with my sister, Mrs. Frank Hunt, and the ferry couldn't make it; we had to take a row boat as the propellers of the ferry boat would have struck a sand bar. I have crossed on the old pontoon bridge and then they put in the combination bridge. Those days they used to haul produce with teams and wagons; I have often crossed on the ice. I remember the spring of 1894 when I worked for Dave [Haters?], Al Mitchell and his wife crossed the Missouri on the ice; the ice was going out and Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell had to get out of the wagon; they saved themselves but the team and wagon went down.

One Sunday my cousin, [?] McBride, and I went to Sioux City after church. We drove to o'Neills o'Neill's (just about half a mile east of Jackson) and drove from there across Jackson Lake to Sioux City on the ice. We went to a show and about 5:30 in the afternoon started home. By the time we got to Jackson Lake, which was between the Missouri and o'Neill's home, [?] the water was all over the ice, but we got home without any mishap. I thought we had better not tackle it but my cousin said he had driven all over the [Susquehanna?] River in Pennsylvania and wasn't afraid of Jackson Lake.

It used to take all day to drive to Sioux City, and now, with the concrete roads a person can drive there in about 20 to 25 minutes.